

**Please pray for those who have recently died:** John Billington

**...and for those whose anniversaries occur in February:** Fr Francis Ighorurhie MSP, Truc Nguyen, Rev Fa Joseph Etim MSP, Pauline Willan, Florrie Murphy, Gladys Glyn, Kathleen Cassidy, Ann Byrne, Julie Denning, John Denning

**Memorial list:** If you would like a deceased family member or friend to be remembered in the bulletin during the month of the anniversary of their death please email their name to: [stanthonyop.oxford@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:stanthonyop.oxford@rcaob.org.uk).

**Please contact the Parish Office with the names of those to be included whose deaths occurred in the month of February.** There is no need to do so if their names were on the list in 2022/23.

**Online prayer & faith resources.** A range of resources is given on our parish website [stanthonyofpadua.org.uk/resources/](http://stanthonyofpadua.org.uk/resources/).

**Keeping in touch.** We send a weekly *Bulletin* by email: please let us know if you would like to join our email list and forward the bulletin to anybody who may be interested. We have a *WhatsApp* group. Let Shalini Lalvani know (via the parish email address) if you would like to join, and follow us on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/stanthonyofpadua)

**Hall bookings** - Please email [stanthonyop.oxford@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:stanthonyop.oxford@rcaob.org.uk) for hall availability.

**Mass Intentions:** or the names of those for whom you would like us to pray should be sent to the Parish Office. The envelopes are available at the back. If you want your intention to be published in the bulletin, drop the intention and donation in the letter box by Thursday.

**Please pray for the sick and housebound of the parish:** Fr John Baggley, Elizabeth Johnson, Frank and Helen Kennedy, Margaret Wipp, Maureen O'Sullivan, Lorraine McNally, Peter Donnelly, Lilian Flores, Doreen Busby and Glenys Jones.

### Dates for your diary...

**8-Day Pilgrimage to Poland & The Divine Mercy 2024**, 7th - 14th May at £1,197 (twin sharing), led by Father Claro Conde. Flyers with detailed information are available at the back of the church. Bookings can be made via their website at <http://www.allsaintstravel.co.uk>

	This weekend	Next weekend
Vigil readers	Paul Moore	Agnes Valencak
Sunday Readers: 8:30 am	Noah Odili	Hilary Lappage
Sunday Readers: 10:00 am	Edmund Henry	Philip Mountford
Eucharistic ministers (10am)	Mary, Derek, Jane	Ewa, John, Eugene

### **The Archdiocese Commitment to Safeguarding**

*The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdioceses policies & procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is May Macpherson. She can be contacted at [sg.stanthonyop.oxford@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:sg.stanthonyop.oxford@rcaob.org.uk). The Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240/ [safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk) if you have any concern.*

## St Anthony of Padua, Oxford

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[www.facebook.com/saop.oxford](https://www.facebook.com/saop.oxford)



Presbytery and office: 01865 762964 | Parish priest: 07484 271876 |

Email: [stanthonyop.oxford@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:stanthonyop.oxford@rcaob.org.uk)

Parish Priest: Fr. Emmanuel Ogunnaike, MSP: [fr.emmanuel.ogunnaike@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:fr.emmanuel.ogunnaike@rcaob.org.uk)

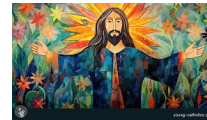
Assistant Priest: Fr Anthony Bassey, MSP: [fr.tony.bassey@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:fr.tony.bassey@rcaob.org.uk)

The Parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham: Registered Charity No. 234216

Parish secretary (Wed & Fri): [stanthonyop.oxford@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:stanthonyop.oxford@rcaob.org.uk)

**11th February 2024**

**Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B**



The readings for the 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time for Year B demonstrate the healing power of Jesus and his ability to rid us of what is unclean in our lives.

Leviticus discusses the laws concerning leprosy, a condition that rendered individuals ritually unclean. It explores the notions of purity and impurity, not just in a physical sense but also spiritually and morally, inviting reflection on what constitutes purity in our lives today. The afflicted are then required to live apart, signifying not just a physical separation but a profound social and communal isolation. We are afraid of neighbours. We are afraid of new people coming into our community. We stay away from them. We make them feel like they are neither wanted nor accepted, because we do not know them, their language, where they come from or their background. It is crucial for us to reflect on the importance of community and the effects of isolation, as well as our responsibility towards those who are marginalized or ostracized.

Jesus' compassionate response to the leper, contrary to the social norms of his time, emphasizes the theme of divine compassion and healing. It challenges us to consider how we extend compassion and healing to those in need, breaking beyond societal barriers. While Jesus instructs the healed man to follow the Mosaic law and not to publicize the miracle, the man's inability to keep silent highlights the tension between personal experience and communal directives. They want to see the curer, the one who makes the miracle, the side-show. And they forgot about the idea of alienation. They did not think to be like Jesus and reach out to all those who feel alienated from the present circumstances of their life among us

Paul's exhortation to do everything for the glory of God, even in mundane activities like eating and drinking, brings forward the theme of finding and honouring the sacred in everyday life. It prompts us to consider how our daily actions can reflect our faith and contribute to the common good. Paul's invitation to imitate him as he imitates Christ underscores the theme of discipleship and the call to live in a way that is reflective of Jesus' teachings and example, emphasizing the Christian call to holiness through following Christ.

This should be our approach too. Jesus does will and does want our salvation. His incarnation and death on the cross, proves that. All of that power which he left to his Church is in the sacrament of penance where the leprosy of sin can be washed away and the sinner restored to new and perfect spiritual health. What folly for any Christian then, to commit sin and isolate himself, like the unclean leper, from God.

**Morning Prayers**

Mon-Fri 8.40am

**Mass Times:**

Mon—Fri 9.00am.

Sat: 9am; Vigil 6.30pm

Sunday: 8.30am; 10am

**Adoration & Confession**

Saturday 5.30—6.15p.m.

**Today's Reading: Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46; Ps31; 1 Cor 10:31-11:1; Mark 1:40-45**

**Responsorial Psalm: You are my refuge, O Lord; you fill me with the joy of salvation.**

**Next Sunday: Genesis 9:8 - 15; Ps 24; 1 Peter 3:18-22; Mark 1:12-15**

**NOTICES:**

**Ed Smith & Jo Jackson's wedding 4/4/24.** We would be honoured if St Anthony's parishioners would join us in celebrating our Nuptial Mass on Easter Thursday at 11am. We have limited spaces but would love for you to join us. If you would like to come, please email [joandedwedding@gmail.com](mailto:joandedwedding@gmail.com) or talk to Ed or Jo.

**Ash Wednesday**, 14th February - there will be an additional mass at 6.30pm. Ash Wednesday is a day of fasting and abstinence - fasting for those who have reached the age of 18 up to their 59th birthday, barring any health conditions, and abstinence from beef for those from 16 years of age.

**Food bank** - a massive thank you to all who have contributed to the food bank. We've been informed that they are short on sugar and tinned meat - please keep them in mind as you go for your next food shop.

**Thank you** - the parish would like to thank Kit Adlington for being our lead flower arranger for these past years. She will be handing this important role to Lidia, who has been doing a tremendous job as part of the team in decorating the church and preparing special display for festivals.

**Last week's offertory collection**

Offertory	Total
Loose Collection	£266.42
Gift Aid Envelopes	£34.00
Card Reader Machine Collection	£00.00
Online giving via website	£00.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>£300.42</b>
Votive candles	£146.43

**Monthly standing orders : £1231**

Date	Day	Time	Intention
Saturday 10th February	Memorial of St Scholastica, Virgin	9:00am	Thanksgiving mass birthday Juliao Ximenes (68yrs RIP)
	Vigil mass	6:30pm	Gerry Devine and family
Sunday 11th February	Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time	8.30am	Prayers for Tommy and Geraldine & family
		10.00am	People of the Parish
Monday 12th February	Feria in Ordinary Time	9:00am	Joho Gama RIP
Tuesday 13th February	Feria in Ordinary Time	9:00am	Prayers for those gone away from the church
Wed 14th February	Ash Wednesday	9:00am	Jose do Rego Carvalho
		6.30pm	Jones Thomas 6th Birthday
Thursday 15th February	Thursday after Ash Wednesday	9:00am	Julie, John and Thomas Denning
Friday 16th February	Friday after Ash Wednesday	9:00am	Thanking God for his blessings bestowed
Saturday 17th February	Saturday after Ash Wednesday	9:00am	For the repose of soul of Abbot Stephen Ortiger RIP
	Vigil mass	6:30pm	Sean Jennings RIP
Sunday 18th February	First Sunday of Lent	8.30am	People of the Parish
		10.00am	Daniella Dunleavy RIP (4th Anniv)

**Offertory Contribution:** In addition to the weekly envelope offerings and the card reader there are other ways to contribute to the parish. If you do online banking, consider a monthly gift by Standing Order. You can set it up yourself or request for a Bank Standing Order form for you to complete and return to us or send directly to your bank.

**Gift-Aid:** If you pay Income Tax in the UK, please consider Gift-Aiding your donation to the parish. In this scheme the government give the church extra 25p on every pound you give. Example: if any tax-payer gives the church £100 donation for the year, the church will claim from the government extra £25 without any extra cost to the person. It's like giving £125 by that person. Help the Church to get the extra cash from the government. Please ask for the gift-aid form or bank standing order form. Forms are available at the back of the Church.